

**VILLAGE OF COLD SPRING
SPECIAL BOARD for a
COMPREHENSIVE PLAN/LOCAL WATERFRONT REVITALIZATION PLAN**

**Minutes
Meeting at Cold Spring Firehouse
7:30 pm
February 11, 2010**

Present: Michael Armstrong (chair), Karen Doyle, Cathryn Fadde (treasurer), Anne Impellizzeri (vice chair), Michael Reisman, Tom Rolston, Catharine Square

Members absent: Marie Early, Marshall Mermell

The Chair opened the meeting at 7:38 pm.

1) Remarks of Chair

Armstrong noted that the Village Board had approved the agreement with GreenPlan on February 9. Seth Gallagher signed the agreement 2/11/2010. The document is being sent to Ted Fink for execution. Armstrong said that Ted Fink has injured his back and may be incapacitated for a period of time. Armstrong said that it was important that interaction with GreenPlan be through himself and Anne Impellizzeri, or arranged with the Chair and Vice Chair – to control costs.

2) Minutes

Michael Reisman suggested that the draft opening in the January 21 minutes be changed to clarify the situation with funding. He moved to approve the January 21, 2010 minutes as amended. This was seconded and unanimously approved.

3) Treasurer's Report

Fadde stated she had not had enough notice to prepare a treasurer's report. She suggested that the Treasurer's Report be presented on the second meeting of each month. The Chair agreed, and Fadde agreed to present a full report at the meeting on February 25, and on the second meeting of each month.

4) Key Issues Discussion

The Board discussed key issues for the comprehensive plan. Each member, in turn, presented the two issues that were most important to them. These were listed on a flip chart, and are presented below:

Tom Rolston gave the following: Waterfront, including Dockside, the Boat Club, Docking – what kinds of boats we should allow; zoning (stated as an issue, later agreed would be a means

for addressing the issues). Tom said that parking requirements needed to be made consistent with Main Street's needs. We need to address issues like building height along Main Street.

Michael Reisman said that for him the most important issue was quality of life. He would like to see a walkable village, enhance it. Other quality of life issues are parking, services for kids, teens, seniors and having good business resources. 9D meets our routine needs. We need to think about how to meet the needs of tourists, with better signage, for example.

Karen Doyle said that for her it was protection of the environment, and that included having a good plan for Dockside, water quality. Anne Impellizzeri commented that it also includes being energy efficient, independence from [reliance on] foreign fossil fuels. Karen said that we need to take special care of the natural environment, shoreline, and animal habitats.

Karen said that we need to pay attention to infrastructure and control stormwater, etc. We need to attend to the Marathon site, also Campbell.

Catharine Square said that for her the main things were collaboration, shared services such as for the fire protection services, water, recycling, and the courts. She noted that the area has multiple fire companies.

Catharine said we need to find ways of bringing in economic development, whether it be working with the Chamber of Commerce or the Village Board. Square spoke about updating signage and crosswalks in the village.

Cathryn Fadde said economic development. We need overnight accommodations. She pointed out that visitors who stay overnight spend 3 times what others spend. We need to keep the Post Office in the village: it is a center of community life. Keep the village walkable.

Trustee Lynn Miller, liaison to the special board, volunteered that there is a problem with costly design guidelines, and a terrible business infrastructure. We need better code enforcement. We also need to coordinate the marketing of the village.

Anne Impellizzeri said that taxes, escalation of property taxes, was a key concern. To address that, we need businesses in the village. That will give us jobs, and the right kinds of jobs will give us local volunteers, help build community spirit, and support neighborliness. We have a great opportunity with underdeveloped property, e.g. village garage.

Armstrong said that for him the most critical issue was the looming expense of large infrastructure needs, with no clear way to pay for it: a new firehouse, an upgrade in the water distribution system, repairs to the reservoir dams, upgraded storm sewers and so on.

His second issue is poor access to the river. The village is severed from the river by the railroad, and there is a single crossing.

5) Outreach Plan Discussion.

The Board discussed the overall schedule for public outreach and development of plan. Armstrong said that the plan was to connect with groups within the community in March and April, with a large meeting planned for May. We will draft the comprehensive plan this summer based on what we learn. That plan will be presented in September 2010.

We discussed possibly building the meetings around key issues, test reactions and refine possible solutions; vary our approach depending on group.

We discussed constituency clusters (based on Draft Outreach Process and Plan) (people who expressed an interest in taking responsibility are named)

1. Fire Company (Anne)
2. Boat Club (Anne, Tom Rolston)
3. Business people, landlords, realtors, music/Ken V. (Tom, Cathryn, Anne or Mike)
4. Key nonprofits, civic clubs, religious groups, possibly health care (Mike)
5. Public officials (Cold Spring, Nelsonville, Philipstown, Putnam County)
(Catharine Square, Mike Armstrong)
6. School (Superintendent, Board of Ed., faculty, PTA, students) (Karen, Anne or Mike)
7. Neighborhood residents
8. Metro North

Discussed the possibility that we could take either of two approaches – or do both. Based on having interests in common with the organization, the Special Board members (minimum 2, but not a quorum) could go to the organization and make presentations, listen to concerns. Or, we could ask planning groups to be responsible for some geographic areas of the village – and organize public forums.

Discussed the need to attract broad stakeholders, including those outside of the village, and could possibly use the mini-stakeholder sessions suggested by GreenPlan (Marathon and surrounding area, Waterfront/Riverfront, Main Street, Route 9D corridor – issue of expanding the historic district scarcely discussed 2/11) to accomplish this. A Planning Group might be responsible for each.

We discussed the idea of “Planning Groups”, to reconstitute, refocus, restructure and recruit new members beyond the former Working Groups and possibly focusing on different topics.

6) Public Comments

Lynn Miller commented on ways the village was making it hard for small businesses to start up. Tom Rolston noted that expectations for landlord upgrades with commercial properties were very different than for residential property.

7) Adjournment Minutes SB 2-11-10 Signed.doc

Reisman made a motion to adjourn the meeting. This was seconded and unanimously approved. The meeting adjourned at 9:10 PM.

Signed



Michael J. Armstrong, Chair